

PROCLAMATION
BY THE
Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 281 as passed by the Eighty-Seventh Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

The author of Senate Bill 281 is to be commended for aiming to bring accountability to the criminal justice system by addressing the use of investigative hypnosis. But the House sponsor's late amendment to the bill would dramatically expand its scope in an unacceptable way. The sponsor added language so that for any person who has undergone investigative hypnosis, all statements that person makes "after" the hypnosis—even ones made long "after" the hypnosis session and unrelated to that session—are barred from being admitted into evidence in any criminal trial. The House sponsor's amendment would grant lifetime immunity, for everyone who undergoes this type of hypnosis, from having any subsequent statements used in a criminal trial.

Since the Eighty-Seventh Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 18th day of June, 2021.

Handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

GREG ABBOTT
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

Handwritten signature of Jose A. Esparza in black ink.
JOSE A. ESPARZA
Deputy Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
_____ O'CLOCK

JUN 18 2021

Handwritten signature of the Secretary of State in black ink.
Secretary of State